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Administrator,

PFAS Meeting at NAS

This week Jennifer Orme-Zavaleta, along with staff from OW and OLEM, attended a PFAS Meeting of Opportunity hosted by the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine's Water Science and Technology Board and the Board on Environmental Studies and Toxicology within the Division on Earth and Life Studies. The intent of the meeting was to discuss PFAS issues of most concern for various agencies and organizations and to explore the potential for the National Academies to play a constructive role in addressing the national challenge of assessing, understanding, and managing PFAS in the environment.

Hot Issues

North Carolina State Senators Visit ORD RTP

On March 4, 2019, State Senators Harper Peterson (District 9, Wilmington), Vickie Sawyer (District 34, Mooresville), and Kirk de Viere (District 19, Fayetteville) visited EPA's RTP research facility to learn about PFAS research and tour labs. ORD gave an overview of our organizational structure and PFAS research. Researchers shared information on the following topics: research using alternative models to screen for and assess PFAS health effects; non-targeted approaches to discover PFAS in environmental samples; and air emissions testing for PFAS.

Greater Cincinnati Water Works Laboratory Visit, Cincinnati, OH

This week a group of five representatives from Greater Cincinnati Water Works (GCWW), including Superintendent Jeff Swertfeger, requested a meeting with ORD scientists. The purpose of this meeting was for GCWW to take a tour of the Simulated Home Premise Plumbing System located at EPA's AWBERC facility and to discuss how to design a pipe loop for corrosion studies. ORD's model home plumbing system is used to study corrosion in drinking water distribution systems.

DoD PFAS meetings in San Antonio, TX, and Ada, OK, March 12.

ORD will meet with Air Force Civil Engineer Center (AFCEC) staff at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas. AFCEC is responsible for managing the Air Force compliance, restoration, and sustainability programs for PFAS and other contaminants in drinking water, contaminated soils and sediments, and groundwater. AFCEC is collecting treatability results and cost information on PFAS site remediation and drinking water treatment technologies, including Ion Exchange, Granular Activated Carbon, and Reverse Osmosis. EPA and Department of Defense (DoD) will discuss opportunities for leveraging activities in ORD and AFCEC to share data, jointly develop models, and improve treatment and remediation strategies for PFAS-impacted sites. ORD will use DoD data to enhance EPA's Treatability Database and Cost Models to optimize PFAS drinking water treatment, site remediation, and reduce costs.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

Society of Toxicology 2019, March 10-14, Baltimore, MD

EPA scientists will showcase their research through 30 symposia, workshops, informational sessions, roundtables and 120 platform and poster sessions at the 2019 Society of Toxicology (SOT) 58th Annual Meeting in Baltimore, Maryland on March 10-14. 6,500 toxicologists and 350 exhibitors will attend the meeting this year, making this event the largest gathering of industry, governmental, and academic toxicologists in the world. ORD will also have an exhibit booth (#4065) for informative research factsheets and live demonstrations of some of ORD's web-based tools.